



Hutt Valley High School News

Te Kura Tuarua O Te Awakairangi

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Tonight is the school's Open Evening for prospective students of Year 9 in 2012. It is an important evening for our school community, as we present the advantages of studying at Hutt Valley High School. A great deal of effort goes in to setting up and running the evening, and I want to thank the many people – staff and students alike – who are involved. We can never take for granted that students will come to this school, and it is vital that we make those contemplating joining us as welcome as possible. As we show them our school, we need to remember that they are our future in a very real sense. They will offer us their talent and energy and in return we need to provide them with a safe and challenging academic environment, where standards are real and are high, and where their wider humanity is engaged and developed through involvement in sports, cultural and wider community service activities.

The evening is very much a meeting of minds, and is one of those pleasurable times, when staff find that talking enthusiastically about their subjects reminds them of, and confirms in them, the reasons why they went teaching. The chance to engage young people in learning is a rare privilege that we are able to enjoy. The Open Evening provides us with the opportunity to welcome a whole new school generation into that experience.

This week, as all will be aware, is a short one due to the mid-term break that extended the Queen's Birthday weekend by one day. Staff and students are feeling the stress of this year's heightened workload involved with NCEA revised standards, and it is very useful to have a slightly longer break to address that. The increased workload continues for the next two years, as work on the revised standards extends through to Level 3. The level of the issue can be seen by a cursory check of the NCEA assessment calendar on the school website;

there is a huge range of standards offered across the various subjects and most are subject to change over the period of 2011-13. We are proposing to take a similar stance to the calendar next year, so that in the two winter terms we include a break to allow staff and students to rest, as well as to have just a few days to head off the transmission of winter ailments.

School dates for 2012 will be posted shortly on the school website.

Finally this week, I need to acknowledge the Gluckman Report released last week. It is a wide-ranging document that aims to address some of the issues within our wider education system. It argues for a stronger Government and Ministry focus on the early phases of students' educational experiences as the key to their long term success. It is encouraging to see such a thorough review being undertaken, and interesting to see the emphasis on students' intellectual and physical maturation as lasting through into the mid-twenties age group. The role of secondary schools remains pivotal in that process, and it is cheering to see a document which attempts to take such a wide view of education and points out directions for the country's future. The challenge now is for the policy and resource development needed to address the report's findings.

Ross Sinclair
Principal

Congratulations to:

★ Two of our Young Enterprise Companies (from our 12 Business Studies class) qualified for the PWC Regional Finals of the Oral Business Plans on Wednesday 1 June. The groups which **presented were** : “**Table – it**” (**Manan Acharya** 12GM, **Steven Taylor** 12KG, **Craig Morgan** 12NS, **Prashant Chhika** 12GM and **Sione Tokai** 12BL) who have developed acrylic/ plastic personalised student timetables; and “**SSS**” (**Matthew Haywood** 12CK, **Jack James** 12BL **Hasun Wedage** 12NS **Kevin Nguyen** 12TJ and **Savnil Prasad** 12KG) who have produced a light weight camp stove. Although unplaced on the night both teams represented their School and Hutt region with much credit and received commendation from the Judges.

★ **Steven Taylor** 12KG has been selected to represent the Wellington region in the Enterprise in Action 2011 which includes the New Zealand heat of the “Fed-Ex Express JA International Trade Challenge” and the “Global Enterprise Challenge”. This annual event is sponsored by Massey University and hosted in Auckland with Young Enterprise students from all over New Zealand taking part.

Looking Ahead

June

9 Open Evening - 6.00 pm
15 Year 13 Biology Zoo Trip
 22 Horowhenua Sports Exchange
28 Year 12 Coca Cola Expo
 30 Winter Sports Photos

July

1 Winter Sports Photos
4-8 Maori Language Week
 13, 14 Dance Benefit Show
15 Last day of Term 2
 16-31 School Holidays

August

1 First day for Term 3

School Holiday Computer Classes

Educational and enjoyable. One day to one week holiday computer classes for ages 5 to 15. Create 3D games, web design, animations, art and graphics, video editing, programming, PowerPoint, Excel, Word, Access or build and upgrade computers.

For further information call Ed Brown on 499 2211 or www.grandtraining.co.nz

OPEN EVENING - TONIGHT

Thursday 9 June at 6.00 pm

This evening is for all students and their parents/caregivers interested in enrolling at Hutt Valley High School for 2012.

Resource Centre Notices

Study Guides for NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 are available now from the Resource Centre

Also great stocks of preused uniforms at the moment - come and have a look.

Sign up to receive Hutt Valley High School Newsletters to your inbox:
<http://www.hvhs.school.nz/news-events/newsletter-subscribe/>

Tweens & Teens 12+ Course

This course covers: atmosphere, boundaries, discipline, communication, self-esteem and future-focus.

Sundays 7 August - 11 September,
 7.15 - 9.15 pm

The Stables, Lane Street, Upper Hutt.

Book online at www.theparentingplace.com or contact Jen on 528 6170 or jas.jen02@gmail.com.

Absence Line 560 1568

If your child will be absent from school, please call our absence line and leave a message stating their name, form class and the reason why. This should then be followed up with a note to the form teacher on their return.

